

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00555 171301Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /120 W
----- 016800

R 171045Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2772

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAHNGER GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0555

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT AO

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FNLA INVOLVEMENT IN LUANDA CRISIS

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

REF: KINSHASA 6213

1. THERE MAY BE SOME TRUTH TO FNLA CLAIMS TO INVOLVEMENT IN LUANDA RIOTS. ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESS REPORT WE CONSIDER PROBABLY TRUST-WORTHY, BLACK LOYALIST TROOPS UNDER BLACK OFFICERS SWEEPING CAZENGA DISTRICT OF LUANDA ON AFTERNOON OF JULY 16 WERE ATTACKED BY UNKNOWN NUMBER OF ARMED, UNIFORMED NON-ANGOLAN AFRICANS WHO LATER IDENTIFIED AS "APPARENTLY FROM ZAIRE." SEVEN REPORTED KILLED. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO VERIFY REPORT, WHICH IF TRUE WOULD BE FIRST INSTANCE OF ZAIRE INVOLVEMENT. ("FOREIGN" TROOPS MAY MERELY HAVE
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PAGE 02 LUANDA 00555 171301Z

BEEN FRENCH-SPEAKING FNLA CONSCRIPTS.)

2. IN MAIN, HOWEVER, EVENTS OF APRIL 15 SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN SPARKED BY MPLA AND ITS LOCAL SYMPATHIZERS, CAPITALIZING ON FRUSTRATION FELT BY ALL BLACKS OVER APPARENT DISINCLINATION OF AUTHORITIES TO DEAL WITH WHITE RACISTS RESPONSIBLE FOR JULY 11-12 INCIDENTS.

3. AMONG MANY DANGERS OF THE MOMENT IS THE TRADITIONAL RIVALRY BETWEEN MPLA AND FNLA. IF LATTER FELT OUTDONE BY MPLA ON JULY 15, IT COULD BE INSPIRED TO CAUSE FURTHER BLOODSHED TO EVEN THE SCALES. THE NON-AFFILIATED AFRICAN RESIDENTS ARE THE LOSERS.
BRIGGS

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NNN

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